

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

August 29, 2014

Woody Smeck, Superintendent Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks ATTN: Wilderness Stewardship Plan 47050 Generals Highway Three Rivers, CA 93271-9700

Subject:

Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Wilderness Stewardship Plan for the Sequoia

and Kings Canyon National Parks, California. (CEQ# 20140180)

Dear Mr. Smeck:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Wilderness Stewardship Plan for the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, California. Our review is provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA Implementing Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

The EPA supports the National Park Service's commitment to preserve habitat, wetlands, lightscapes and soundscapes through protection of the parks' wilderness. Based on our review of the DEIS, we have rated the Preferred Alternative 2 as Lack of Objections (LO) (see enclosed "Summary of Rating Definitions").

EPA appreciates the opportunity to review this DEIS. We also appreciate the Forest Service coordination with us, via phone conversations, during our review. When the FEIS is released, please send one hard copy and one CD to the address above (mail code: ENF-4-2). If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 972-3521, or have your staff contact James Munson, the lead reviewer for this project. James can be reached at (415) 972-3852 or Munson.James@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Martyn Goforth, Manager Environmental Review Section

Enclosure:

Summary of the EPA Rating System